



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FW

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/395,480 | 09/14/1999 | LAURA J. BUTLER | 200780 | 6086 |
| 45979 | 7590 | 05/23/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| PERKINS COLE LLP/MSFT | | | TRAN, TAM D | |
| P. O. BOX 1247 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247 | | | 2676 | |

DATE MAILED: 05/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/395,480 | BUTLER, LAURA J. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Tam D Tran | 2676 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 March 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 21-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 21-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 21-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Palmer et al. (USPN 6292166 B1), hereinafter simply Palmer.

2. In regard to claim 21, 35, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, see col.1 lines 5-16, col.6 lines 18-37, comprising the steps of: examining color depth capabilities of all the conference participants; see col.11 lines 30-45, transmitting true color graphics (sharing region having a root window using a 24 bit true color pixels depth) if the examining indicates that all participants can support true color graphics (if clients and server have difference pixel depth then the clients perform shifting; however, if clients and server have same pixel depth clients would not need to perform shifting, and the transmitting is ok) . See Fig.7 col.12 lines 10-52, col.6 lines 55-63.

3. In regard to claims 22, 28, 36, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, further comprising the steps of: mapping true color graphics to closest equivalent in a color palette of a depth determined by the lowest color depth

supported by any participant; transmitting mapped graphics to all participants. See col.6 lines 43-60.

4. In regard to claims 23, 29, 37, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, wherein the step of mapping comprises the step of mapping the true color graphics to the closest equivalent in a 256 color, 8bpp color palette (by definition color map having 8 bit pixel values containing 256 color, computer desktop encyclopedia). See col.6 lines 55-67.

5. In regard to claims 24, 30, 38, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, wherein the step of mapping comprises the step of mapping the true color graphics to the closest equivalent in a 16 color, 4bpp color palette. See col.6 lines 55-67.

6. In regard to claims 25, 31, 39, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, further comprising the step of reexamining the color depth capabilities of conference participants upon addition and deletion of conference members (the values of pixels on the display depending on the depth value which represents for true-color or non-true-color data, disconnecting or adding members being cared by Palmer, then network will re-determine the depth value every time the network having disconnecting member or adding member). See col.4 lines 17-25.

7. In regard to claim 26, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, further comprising the step of repainting shared information if the color depth capabilities change, (multiple color depths can be used for color map to obtain

values to be sent to the color guns of the display device, color gun will perform the raster scan for the display, which read on repainting shared information). See col.12 lines 20-31.

8. In regard to claims 27, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, wherein the step of repainting shared information includes the step of transmitting true color graphics if all conference members can support true color graphics (the color map converting pseudo color pixel values into true color format for display on client display device (conference member), and sent pixels values into to color guns on the server system, color gun will perform the raster scan for the display, which read on repainting shared information). See col.12 lines 32-38.

9. In regard to claims 32, 33, 40, 41, Palmer teaches a method of transmitting that includes the steps of transmitting packets of a value color mapping (256 bytes). See col.6 lines 55-67.

10. In regard to claim 34, Palmer teaches a method of transmitting graphics in a multipoint data conference, comprising the steps of: examining color depth capabilities of conference participants; see col.11 lines 30-45; calculating the minimum color depth (lowest depth values) supported by any conference participant; see col.11 lines 38- 53; and transmitting graphics (sharing region having a root window using a 24 bit true color pixels depth) at the minimum color depth supported by any conference participant to all conference participants. See col.6 lines 55-63.

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments filed on 03/04/2005, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach “select a color depth based on the color depth”. However, Examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument because claim’s limitation does not mention about selecting the color depth.

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach “transmitting true color graphic if all participants can support true color graphic”. However, examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument because on Fig.1, Fig. 7, col.12 lines 10-52, Palmer teaches transmission of graphic information between client and server, and if client and server support true color client would not need to shift the pixel depth if it is not necessary.

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach “calculating the minimum color depth supported by any conference participant; and transmitting graphics at the minimum color depth supported by any conference participant”. However, examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument on col.11 lines 35-52, Palm teaches defining lowest color depth. The lowest color depth corresponds to calculating a minimum color depth. If the server pixel depth is less than the lowest color depth the client will then use a color map to display the pseudo color pixel values. These pseudo color pixels values are received from server corresponding to transmitting graphics (color pixels) at the minimum color depth.

For these reasons, the rejections are maintained.

Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tam D. Tran** whose telephone number is **571-272-7793**. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI from 8:30 – 5:30.

Art Unit: 2676

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Matthew Bella** can be reached on **571-272-7778**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tam Tran

TT
Examiner

Art unit 2676

Matthew C. Bella

MATTHEW C. BELLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600